

DIV. II

Denholme Urban Sanitary Authority.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

C-5.8.36

No. 103871

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

On the Sanitary Condition of the
Denholme Urban Sanitary District
with tabular returns of mortality

DURING THE YEAR 1935.



THORNTON, BRADFORD,

July, 1936.

TO THE DENHOLME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of your District along with the vital statistics for the year ending 31st December, 1935.

SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the District—2536 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population 1935—2547

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1935
according to Rate books—882

Rateable value—£13313.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£47·937.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS. The population is almost entirely composed of the thrifty artizan class, engaged in the woollen mills, stone quarries, agricultural and dairy farms of the district, a large number travel to the neighbouring towns and are employed as wool-sorters, warehousemen, and in the engineering trades.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males	Females	Total
LIVE (Legitimate	17	10	27
BIRTHS } Illegitimate	1	0	1
Still Births	1	0	1
Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population :			
Still Births	...	·39	
Live Births	...	10·99	
Rate per 1000 total (live and still births)			11·38

DEATHS. 13 Males. 23 Females. Total 36.

Death Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population : 14·1.

Deaths from puerperal causes : nil.

Death rate of infants under one year of age :

(all infants per 1000 live births) 35·7

Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births 37·0

Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births nil

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	nil
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	nil
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)		nil

The Birth and Death rates compared with those of last year and with the average rates for England and Wales are shown in the following tables :

	England & Wales	1935	1934
Birth rate	14.7	11.38	12.8
Death rate	11.7	14.13	15.1
Infantile mortality	57.0	35.72	60.6

The following table shows the ages at death.

Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and over
1	0	1	0	6	28

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION FOR HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The Public Health Officers of the Authority consist of a part-time Medical Officer of Health, and a Sanitary Inspector who is also Surveyor, and they are supplemented by the School Medical Officers, Health Visitors, and Veterinary Officers of the West Riding County Council.

All arrangements for Hospital treatment, whether for Fever, Small Pox, Tuberculosis or Maternity cases remain the same as in 1934.

Provision for Ambulance facilities is satisfactory.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER. The district has an abundant supply of excellent drinking water. Out of a total of 882 houses only 82 are not supplied with a piped supply from the Bradford Corporation or the water main of Messrs. W. & H. Foster, Ltd. 9 of the houses without a piped supply are in clearance areas, one is to be closed under the Housing Acts, and the owners of 11 other houses have signed an agreement to provide a piped supply immediately (carried out in 1936 year). Some of the outlying parts of the district still have to depend on springs and wells, which give a good supply, however, of pure water.

From an existing 6 ins. main in Cragg Lane, a 3 ins. main has been laid to supply nos. 1 and 2, Old Fort (44 yds. lin.) and from the existing 4 ins. main on the Halifax Road near Denholme Gate Inn, a 3 ins. main has been laid on the east side of Brighthouse Road (73 yds. lin.).

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. Since the completion of the sewage disposal works at the north end of the district only 247 houses are not now drained to the Council's Sewage Disposal Works.

There are two works for Sewage Disposal in the district.

[a] WHALLEY LANE WORKS completed February 1932, and comprise screening chamber, two settling tanks, two storm water tanks, two bacteria beds equipped with revolving sprinklers 23ft. 6in. diam. each, and two humus tanks

[b] DOE PARK SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS consist of a screening chamber, detritus tank, two settling tanks, two sludge filters, storm water filter, and 9 acres of land, six of which are under drained and available for the application of sewage.

The effluent from these works is satisfactory.

Only the southern end of the District requires sewerage and a means of sewage disposal.

3. RIVERS AND STREAMS. There is one small stream running through the district, and it is mostly formed by the overflow from the reservoirs; it is comparatively free from pollution.

4. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.	1935	1934	1933
Privies with covered middens	112	112	113
" open middens	9	9	9
Pail or Tub Closets	36	29	29
Waste Water Closets	30	30	31
Fresh Water Closets	679	673	661
Chemical Closets	2	2	2

5. PUBLIC CLEANSING. The Scavenging of the district is carried out by the Council's staff in a satisfactory manner. Due to the continued efforts of your Sanitary Inspector I am pleased to report that there are now 511 ashbins for the storage of house refuse in the district, these are emptied weekly, pails emptied weekly, and privies vary from 14 to 21 days. The method of disposal is by tipping on the controlled system, except in the case of a few outlying places where old quarries are used. A covered-in dust cart is used for collecting house refuse and ashes, and conveying same to the tips. 1190 loads have been disposed of at the tips at a cost, for the year, of £303.

6. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The following is a tabular statement of the inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector :

Inspection for nuisances in 1935	926
Nuisances found in 1935 ...	34
„ in hand at end of 1934	1
Total needing abatement	35
Nuisances abated during 1935	24
„ outstanding at end of 1935	11
Informal notices served ...	34
„ „ complied with	23
Statutory notices served ...	nil
Summonses or other legal proceedings	nil

7. SMOKE ABATEMENT. The Sanitary Inspector takes observations, but no action has been found necessary.

8. FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS. There are 6 factories and 15 workshops, including 3 bakehouses in the district, all of which have been inspected at intervals, and have been found in a satisfactory condition.

9. OFFENSIVE TRADES. There is only one in the district. It is a knacker's yard, where bone boiling is carried on, and it has been inspected frequently and found in a satisfactory condition.

10. MORTUARY AND VAN DWELLINGS. There is no satisfactory mortuary for housing the dead, the only accommodation being at present a shed which is without water supply, and it houses the snow plough and other roadway conveyances

There is one van-dwelling, but no cellar-dwellings and no lodging-houses in the district.

11. SCHOOLS. There is one public elementary school in the district, a substantial stone building, well lighted and ventilated, and has a plentiful water supply ; it has been visited on many occasions, and found to be kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The health of the pupils has been good on the whole. for it has not been necessary to close the school on any occasion. There have been mild epidemics of measles, chicken-pox, and mumps, but not a single case of diphtheria, in spite of the fact that the surrounding townships experienced severe epidemics of a very virulent type of this disease. In view of the prevalence of diphtheria this year opportunity was given, by the West Riding County Council, to the parents of scholars to have their children immunized against the malady. The method used was that employing three doses distributed over a period of three or four weeks, this being the most satisfactory method

for children, causing little or no general reaction, and only a moderate local reaction. The total number of children inoculated or immunized was 11, the ages varying from the youngest to the oldest, 66 being treated in 1934.

During Health Week a talk on health matters was given to the scholars by myself. Propaganda work was again carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. Posters, published by the National Health and Cleanliness Council, were posted up in the village, and literature distributed to the school children and throughout the district.

An Essay Competition was arranged for school children, the subject being Health and Cleanliness. The Sanitary Inspector arranged for the distribution of prizes to the successful essayists.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

The total number of houses in the district is 882, of which 845 are of the working-class type; the total number of inhabited houses according to the rate book at the end of 1935 was 880.

The need for modern working-class houses was emphasised in my report of 1934, and it is gratifying to note that the Council have commenced the erection of 20 working-class dwellings. The number of applicants far exceeds the number of houses being built, for the demand for this modern type of house to let at an inclusive rent of 10/- per week is great.

The Housing Survey to ascertain overcrowding does not show any evidence of acute overcrowding, a few four bedroom houses is the chief need, but the families who will require them will not be able to afford the payment of an economic rent

Eight houses have been erected at Field Head by private enterprise, and ten more commenced. These houses are for sale at £425 each.

The erection of seven houses has commenced in Longlands Avenue, five at £425, and two at £475 each.

The Council applied to the Ministry of Health for sanction to erect 32 houses, but only 20 were allowed. Upon the completion and occupation of these houses an application is to be made to the Ministry of Health for the erection of a further twelve houses.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year 1935 :

(i) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	49
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	40
(iii) Total number of inspections made ..	46
(iv) Number of dwelling-houses needing further action	44
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	39
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	5

II. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	6
---	---

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :

(a) Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	nil
2 Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	nil
(a) By owners	nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

1 Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	nil
2 Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	nil
(a) By owners	nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	nil

(c) Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :		
1	Number of representations, etc. made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for habitation	39
2	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition orders were made	nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders	7
4	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners, section 19 (2)	2
(a)	to render houses fit for human habitation	1
(b)	as to usage other than for human habitation	1

(d) Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :		
1	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing orders were made ...	nil
2	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms closed in pursuance of Closing orders ...	nil
3	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms, the Closing orders in respect of which were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	nil

(e) Outstanding houses dealt with during 1935 under the Housing Act 1925 :		
1	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing orders were outstanding	nil
2	Number of above dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing orders were determined, houses having been made fit ...	nil
3	Number of dwelling-houses, above, in respect of which Demolition orders were made	nil
4	Number of above dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition orders	nil
(f) Number of new houses erected in 1935 :		
(a)	By Local authority ...	6
(b)	By private enterprise ...	6

IV. Unhealthy Areas :

The following properties have been scheduled for inclusion in Clearance Areas :

Nos. 27, 29, 31, 33/35, Lodge Gate; Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Emmanuel Row; Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, Cragg Lane; Nos. 2, 3, 4, Longhouse Lane; Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Amble Tonia; Nos. 5/6, 7, 8, Thorn Gate; Nos. 6, 7, Highgate; Nos. 1/2, 3, 4, 5, Well Street; Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, Glenville Mount. (Formal declaration has not been made).

No. 2 Small Whiteshaw has been closed after informal action, and permission granted to use the house as a farm building.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY. There are 57 cowsheds in the district with an average number of 420 cows. The number of separate cowkeepers is 26, the number of registered milksellers 11, and of wholesale traders is 16. The cowsheds and the cows are frequently inspected both by the Sanitary Officer and the County Veterinary Officer.

All the cowsheds have been brought up to a good standard of lighting, ventilation and floor construction. The standard of cleanliness of the sheds and methods of milking are good. Two of the farms have been in touch with the West Riding County Council with regard to being licenced for the production of Grade "A" milk, so that in the near future it is hoped to have a supply of Grade "A" milk.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS. There are 4 private slaughter houses in the district of which 3 are licensed and 1 registered.

(c) BAKEHOUSES. There are 3 in the district, and they have been found to be in a satisfactory condition on inspection.

SECTION F. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The only notifiable Infectious diseases occurring during the year were 4 cases of Scarlet Fever and 3 of Erysipelas; no cases of Small Pox, Enteric Fever, Diphtheria, Puerperal Fever, or Ophthalmic Neonatorum occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS. There were no primary notifications of any form.

I append Tables C. and D. and Form 572.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. W. N. BLACKMORE,
M.B., Ch. B. (Edin.).

